

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 STATE 051717

15

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 BIB-01 SS-15 PM-04 PA-01 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 /048 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE-TEDEAL:DPB

APPROVED BY EUR - JAARMITAGE

EUR/EE-NGANDREWS

EUR/SOV-MLEVITSKY

EUR/CE-JKORNBLUM

BIB-WROBERTS

----- 116780

R 031702Z MAR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 051717

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XH

SUBJECT: EVALUATION REPORTS OF RADIO FREE EUROPE OUTPUT

REF: STATE A-4989, 6/20/74

1. BOARD FOR INTERNATIONAL BROADCASTING (BIB) CHAIRMAN  
DAVID ABSHIRE HAS WRITTEN ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN AND  
REQUESTED THAT EE POSTS PROVIDE PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS OF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 051717

RFE PERFORMANCE. (BIB ALSO MADE SAME REQUEST RE RADIO  
LIBERTY, WHICH WILL BE SUBJECT OF SEPTTEL.) AS POSTS

ARE AWARE, STATE'S A-4989 OF JUNE 1974 ESTABLISHED A REQUIREMENT FOR QUARTERLY REPORTS ON RFE BROADCASTS. EE POSTS SENT IN A NUMBER OF HIGHLY USEFUL ASSESSMENTS DURING 1974, AND EMBASSIES WARSAW AND BUCHAREST CONTINUE TO DO SO, BUT GENERALLY THE FREQUENCY AND QUALITY OF REPORTS HAVE DECLINED OVER THE PAST YEAR OR SO. DURING THIS SAME PERIOD RFE AND RL WERE UNDERGOING A MAJOR REORGANIZATION, INVOLVING SOME CHANGES IN HIGHER MANAGEMENT, AND WE DID NOT PRESS THE POSTS FOR THEIR REPORTS. OVER THE LONG RUN, HOWEVER, SOME SORT OF CONTINUING SYSTEM OF EVALUATION IS NECESSARY IF THE DEPARTMENT IS TO MEET ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER PL 93-129 TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO BIB TO ASSURE THAT RFE AND RL

BROADCASTS ARE NOT INCONSISTENT WITH OUR OVERALL FOREIGN POLICY OBJECTIVES.

2. WE ARE THEREFORE RENEWING THE REQUIREMENT FOR A PERIODIC EVALUATION BY ACTION ADDRESSEES OF RFE BROADCASTS BUT ON A SEMI-ANNUAL RATHER THAN ON A QUARTERLY BASIS. REPORTS WILL BE DUE APRIL 1 AND OCTOBER 1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE SHORT DEADLINE FOR THE FIRST REPORT MAY POSE A BURDEN ON THE SMALLER POSTS, BUT BELIEVE WE MUST HAVE AN EARLY ASSESSMENT SINCE THE MANAGEMENT OF RFE/RL IS IN THE PROCESS OF DRAFTING NEW INTERNAL POLICY GUIDELINES. BIB IS ALSO SETTING UP A PANEL, ON WHICH DEPARTMENT REPS. WILL PARTICIPATE, TO REVIEW THE DRAFT GUIDELINES. THE POSTS' CANDID EVALUATIONS OF RFE OUTPUT ARE NECESSARY TO ASSURE THAT THE NEW GUIDELINES ARE WORKABLE, REALISTIC AND MEANINGFUL.

3. EMBASSY REPORTS SHOULD FOCUS ON CONTENT AND AUDIBILITY OF BROADCASTS. WITH RESPECT TO CONTENT, WE BELIEVE THAT IN VIEW OF THE OBVIOUS TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES (E.G. JAMMING) AND TIME-CONSUMING NATURE OF THE TASK, IT MAKES LITTLE OR NO SENSE TO HAVE EMBASSY OFFICERS TRY TO EVALUATE RFE OUTPUT BY MONITORING RADIO BROADCASTS. RATHER IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 051717

POSTS TO CONCENTRATE ON SCRIPTS SENT FROM MUNICH. IN THAT REGARD, WE BELIEVE THAT A REVIEW OF THE TOTAL OUTPUT FOR A 2-3 DAY PERIOD WOULD BE MORE USEFUL IN ASSESSING BROADCAST TONE AND CONTENT THAN AN EVALUATION OF SELECTED SCRIPTS OVER A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME. WE WOULD SUGGEST THAT POSTS SELECT DATES ON A RANDOM BASIS. FOR THAT PURPOSE THE EMBASSIES SHOULD ADVISE AMCONGEN MUNICH TO FORWARD ALL SCRIPTS FOR THOSE DATES SINCE RFE NORMALLY WILL PROVIDE ONLY A SAMPLING OF SIGNIFICANT BROADCASTS. REGARDING AUDIBILITY, EMBASSY OFFICERS

SHOULD PERIODICALLY CHECK THE SIGNAL NOT ONLY IN THE  
CAPITAL BUT, AS TIME AND TRAVELS PERMIT, IN OTHER  
REGIONS OF THE COUNTRY AS WELL.  
KISSINGER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SEMIANNUAL REPORTS, RADIO BROADCASTING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE051717  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TEDEAL:DPB  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760082-0055  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760398/aaaadipv.tel  
**Line Count:** 119  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE A-4989  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** BoyleJA  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <12 APR 2004 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EVALUATION REPORTS OF RADIO FREE EUROPE OUTPUT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XH, US, RFE, RADIO LIBERTY, BIB  
**To:** BUCHAREST MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006